

2009 PRESS RELEASES

Orange County Catholic Chorale to Present Patriotic Concert Friday, July 3

Huntington Beach, CA. Jun. 3 --The Orange County Catholic Chorale, Inc., and the San Francisco Solano Catholic Church community will present the 5th Annual Stars and Stripes Forever Concert, Friday, July 3 at 7:30 p.m. in the parish church.

This year's free concert, "Bound for the Promised Land," features a musical journey through our country's history with popular songs from the Revolution, Westward Movement and Civil War. In addition, many well-loved patriotic songs such as God Bless America, Armed Force Medley, Song for the Unsung Hero, From Sea to Shining Sea, and Battle Hymn of the Republic will be featured.

Under the direction of Brian Dehn, the Chorale consists of nearly 75 singers and brass and wind musicians from Orange County and the surrounding area. An audience sing-a-long will also be included. San Francisco Solano Catholic Church is located at 22082 Antonio Parkway, Rancho Santa Margarita.

The Orange County Catholic Chorale, founded in 2005, is a nondenominational performing arts organization, dedicated to singing sacred choral-orchestral repertoire. It offers the Orange County community a unique opportunity to hear infrequently performed, great choral music.

All Beethoven Concert to Be Featured by Orange County Catholic Chorale

Huntington Beach, CA, , April 13 - More than 90 members of the Orange County Catholic Chorale and Orchestra, under the direction of Brian Dehn, will present an all Beethoven concert, Saturday, May 16, 7:30 PM at **Santiago de Compostela Catholic Church, 21682 Lake Forest Drive, Lake Forest.**

This masterworks concert takes on "heroic proportions" with one of the least often performed of Beethoven's larger works, *Mass in C Major, Op. 86*. Also on the program is the "Hallelujah" chorus from his Easter oratorio, *Christus am Ölberge* (Christ on the Mount of Olives), *Op. 85*, and the cantata *Meeresstille und Glückliche Fahrt, Op. 112* (Calm Sea and Prosperous Voyage). Featured soloists include: soprano Chelsea Dehn; mezzo-soprano Brandi Samuel; tenor Ernest Alvarez, and bass Abdiel Gonzalez.

The cantata *Meeresstille und glückliche Fahrt* (A Calm Sea and a Prosperous voyage), based on a text by Goethe, opens the concert. It is a brief work but a dazzling study in contrasts. The *Mass in C* is the first Mass written by Beethoven. Often overshadowed by his immense *Missa Solemnis*, it is now considered by many to be a "long-underrated masterpiece." The concert concludes with the "Hallelujah Chorus," from, Beethoven's oratorio, *Christus am Ölberge* (Christ on the Mount of Olives) -- a joyful hymn of praise belonging to the heroic decade of Beethoven's symphonic period.

A special highlight on the program will be the west coast premier of *Overture* by Kevin Weed, Chorale accompanist and organist at La Purisima Catholic Church, Orange. Specifically composed for tonight's otherwise all-Beethoven concert, it is arranged with the orchestral instruments Beethoven used in his *Mass in C*, and complements the forceful and rhythmic patterns characteristic of Beethoven's composition.

Tickets for the May 16 performance are available from www.BrownPaperTickets.com, Chorale members, OCCC web site, or at the door for \$15. Students are \$5. The Orange County Catholic Chorale, founded in 2005, is a nondenominational performing arts organization, dedicated to singing sacred choral-orchestral repertoire. It offers the Orange County community a unique opportunity to hear infrequently performed, great choral music.

Orange County Catholic Chorale to Hold 4th Annual Silent Auction Fundraiser Featuring “A Night at the Opera”

Huntington Beach, CA, Feb. 13 -- The Orange County Catholic Chorale will hold its 4th Annual Silent Auction Fundraiser with “Music from ‘A Night at the Opera’ and Other Movie Greats” on March 28, beginning at 6:00 pm at the Fountain Valley Senior and Community Center, 17967 Bushard St., Fountain Valley. Tickets are \$15 per person or \$25 per couple and are available from the Chorale’s web site or at the door. Refreshments will be provided.

Individuals or local merchants wanting to donate items to the auction may contact the Chorale through its website or email OCCC05@verizon.net for more information. Tax-deductible acknowledgement receipts will be provided. Proceeds from the auction will help defray expenses for the Chorale’s May masterworks concert. This year, the Chorale’s 80 singers will perform Beethoven’s *Mass in C Major* with full orchestra, along with other cantata and oratorio selections at Santiago de Compestela Catholic Church, 21682 Lake Forest Drive, Lake Forest, May 16 at 7:30 pm.

The Orange County Catholic Chorale, Inc. is a non-profit, 501(c) 3 performing arts organization dedicated to promoting appreciation and knowledge of choral music through the performance of masterworks concerts and events for the local community
